



Guidelines for Possessing Eagles for Falconry

A master class falconer may possess a golden eagle, white-tailed eagle, or Stellar's sea eagle with prior approval from the Department. Prior approval may be obtained by:

1. Submitting a written request to possess individuals of the listed species.
2. Including with the request:
 - a. A list of qualifications and experience in handling large raptors, including information about the species you have handled and the type and duration of the activity in which you gained the experience.
 - b. At least two letters of reference from people with experience handling large raptors such as eagles, ferruginous hawks (*Buteo regalis*), goshawks (*Accipiter gentilis*), or great horned owls. Each must contain a concise history of the author's experience with large raptors, which can include, but is not limited to, handling of raptors held by zoos, rehabilitating large raptors, or scientific studies involving large raptors. Each letter must also assess your ability to care for eagles and fly them in falconry.

Upon approval, the master class falconer:

1. Will be issued a letter of approval by the Department.
2. May take up to two (2) golden eagles from the wild within a calendar year from a livestock depredation area. The take shall follow guidelines set forth in 50 CFR Parts 21.29 and 22.24.
3. May possess up to three (3) eagles in any combination with each eagle in possession counting as one of the raptors in that falconer's total wild bird possession limit.